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October 16, 2007

Via Electronic Filing

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals, TW-A325
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Ex Parte Notice – Rural Health Care Support Mechanism,
WC Docket No. 02-60.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On October 15, 2007, Kirk Norris and Abigail Stork of the Iowa Hospital Association, Joe LeValley and Carmela Brown of Mercy Medical Center—Des Moines, David Lingren and David Swanson the of Iowa Communications Network, and Leo A. Bressanelli of Genesis Health Systems, collectively referred to as the “Iowa delegation,” and Laura Phillips and Robert Waters of Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP, met with Scott Bergman, Legal Advisor for Wireline Issues for Commissioner Adelstein, to review the Iowa Rural Health Telecommunications Program application that is a subject of *Rural Health Care Pilot Program Order* in the above-referenced docket.

The Iowa delegation highlighted the open and participatory process conducted under the auspices of the Iowa Hospital Association by which the Iowa Rural Health Telecommunications Program application was formulated and the understanding each participant had regarding the scope of its commitments; the technical superiority of the proposed use of the 3000 miles of buried fiber of the Iowa Communications Network to aerial fiber in terms of its robustness during extreme weather conditions not uncommon in Iowa; the scope of the technical connection and services the application anticipates providing to rural healthcare facilities throughout Iowa; and the comprehensive nature that this statewide “rising tide lifts all boats” approach offers both to those nearly 100 hospitals within the state that have already committed to and are listed in the application, as well as highlight future opportunities to connect those few hospitals in Iowa that elected not to be part of the initial broadband connectivity grant application. The attachment, from the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department, reviews the extent of utility storm damage to aerial poles and fiber lines during a single storm last winter and this was handed out at the meeting.

Mr. Marlene Dortch
June 22, 2007
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Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, this letter and attachment are being submitted for inclusion in the referenced dockets. Please direct any questions you may have to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,


Laura H. Phillips

cc: Scott Bergman

Attachment

Utility Storm Damage

<u>Utility Company</u>	<u>Meters out Of Service</u>	<u># of Poles Replaced</u>	<u>Miles of Line Replaced</u>
Alliant/IPL	249,599	6,300	1,000
MidAmerican	131,215	1,600	360
RECs (IAEC	107,895	5,500	N/A
MUNIs (IAMU)	12,000	63	1
Total	500,709	13,463	1,361



Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Mgt.
Iowa State EOC Activation Slides
February 24 – March 4, 2007



Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Mgt.
Iowa State EOC Activation Slides
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